



**Cardinal Gibbons Assembly 783**  
**Newsletter**  
**June 2017**



**REFLECTIONS FROM U.S. FOUNDING FATHER PATRICK HENRY**

The Bible is worth all the other books which have ever been printed.

This is all the inheritance I give to my dear family.  
The religion of Christ will give them one which will make them rich indeed.

For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost,  
I am willing to know the whole truth; to know the worst and provide for it.

From: Brainy Quote

<https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/p/patrickhen165618.html>

**RELICS**

Sir Knight Christopher R. Cooper

Relics are a tradition of the Holy Catholic Church that is based in *The Holy Bible*. The first reference is mentioned in the Old Testament in the Second Book of Kings. More references are in the New Testament. Many of our Protestant brothers are confused about the Catholic tradition of relics. Some of the confusion comes from former members of the Holy Catholic Church. They did not take time to learn or understand their Faith. With a little research the subject of relics can be cleared up. The question to answer is, “what is a relic?”

A relic by definition is, “an object associated with a saint and venerated as sacred.” (Braham, 1996) Examples are the Cross of Christ or earthly remains of a Saints. The definition does expose a sticking point for our Protestant brethren with the word “venerate.” They claim there is no support in *The Holy Bible* to venerate relics. (Catholic Answers, 2004) However, this is not true. One example is the burial of Christ. Usually the Roman authorities disposed the bodies of crucifixion. With the body of Christ his followers ask Pontius Pilate for the remains. Christ’s followers venerated his remains by providing a grave and spices to anoint His body. Today Christ followers in the Holy Catholic Church venerate His relics by receiving the Eucharist and during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

The first reference of relics in *The Holy Bible* is in 2 Kings 13:20-21, “And so Elisha died and was buried. At that time of year, bands of Moabites used to raid the land. Once some people were burying a man, when suddenly they saw such a raiding band. So they cast the man into the grave of Elisha, and everyone went off. But when the man came in contact with the bones of Elisha, he came back to life and got to his feet.” (Catholic Book Publishing Co., 1986) This passage is the first example of a relic in connection with a miracle. Another example from the Old Testament connecting Elisha’s relics with miraculous works is in the Book of Sirach 48:14, “In life he [Elisha] performed wonders, and after death, marvelous deeds.” In the New Testament relics of St. Paul are connect with miraculous works in the Book of Acts 19:11-12, “And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.” (Regency Publishing House, 1976) This passage illustrates relics from St. Paul were connect with healing the sick.

As *The Holy Bible* illustrates relics are connected with biblical teaching and miraculous works. Both the Old and New Testament support the Catholic tradition of relics. Relics are connected with Christ, the Prophet

Elisha, and St. Paul the Apostle. Understanding the tradition of relics is very simple with a little study and a good knowledge of The Holy Bible.

Works Cited:

Braham, C. G. (1996). *Random House Webster's Dictionary*. New York: Ballantine Books.

Catholic Answers. (2004, August 10). *Relics*. Retrieved September 30, 2015, from Catholic Answers: <http://www.catholic.com/tracts/relics>

Catholic Book Publishing Co. (1986). *The New American Bible - Saint Joseph Edition*. New York: Catholic Book Publishing Co.

Regency Publishing House. (1976). *The Holy Bible - King James Version*. New York: Regency Publishing House.



**CARDINAL GIBBONS ASSEMBLY HONOR GUARD**

**REGALIA ITEMS FOR LOAN**

Faithful Comptroller Rod Komlofske has regalia items to loan for members of the Assembly who do not have them. If you want to participate in an Honor Guard event and do not have the required regalia items send email to [rod.komlofske@gmail.com](mailto:rod.komlofske@gmail.com).

**UPCOMING HONOR GUARD EVENT(S):**

**NONE SCHEDULED**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**October 2017**

	Admission Celebration
	Formation Celebration
October 1	1st Half of Program year ends – Program write-ups are due
October 1	Matrix Form is due
October 1	Life Chains
October 7-8	Church Membership Drive
Cancelled	State Golf Tournament
October 9	Columbus Day
October 14-15	Knighthood (3rd) Celebration-16442 Sapphire
October 15	Family of the Month
October 21	Knighthood (3rd) Celebration-12537 Southport
October 28	Knighthood (3rd) Celebration – 9570 Lenoir
October 31	Halloween

**November 2017**

	Admission Celebration
	Formation Celebration
November 1	All Saints Day
November 11	Knighthood (3rd) Celebration–7450 Concord
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 18	NC State Soccer Challenge – Chapel Hill

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **November 2017**

November 23      Thanksgiving Day

### **December 2017**

Admission Celebration  
Formation Celebration  
Keep Christ in Christmas  
December 2      Knighthood (3rd) Celebration – 5487 Goldsboro – Hispanic  
December 8      Feast of Immaculate Conception  
December 25      Christmas Day

### **January 2018**

Admission Celebration  
Formation Celebration  
January 1      New Year's Day  
Fraternal Survey – Due at Mid-Year meeting  
January 6      Mid-Year East – Kinston  
January 12      Charlotte Right to Life March  
January 13      Raleigh Right to Life March  
January 27      Mid- Year West – Salisbury  
January 27      Jacksonville Right to Life March

### **90 Days**

May 8      Mother's Day  
May 15      Family of the Month due  
May 20-23      2016 State Convention Information

## **DEGREE CEREMONIES**

Further details for upcoming degree ceremonies are available on the K of C State Council Website:  
First, Second, and Third Degree: <https://kofcnc.org/upcoming-degree-ceremonies/>  
Fourth Degree: <https://kofcnc.org/4th-degree/4th-degree-exemplification/>

<b><u>Third Degree</u></b>	21 October 2017	11:00 AM	Council 12537, Southport, NC
<b><u>Second Degree:</u></b>	25 October 2017	7:00 PM	Council 2546, Raleigh, NC
<b><u>Fourth Degree</u></b>	18 November 2017	11:30 AM	Assembly 1541, Jacksonville, NC
<b><u>Third Degree:</u></b>	2 December 2017	11:00 AM	Council 5487, Goldsboro, NC
<b><u>Third Degree</u></b>	10 February 2018	11:00 AM	Council 2546, Raleigh, NC
<b><u>Third Degree:</u></b>	3 March 2018	11:00 AM	Council 1074, Wilmington, NC
<b><u>Third Degree:</u></b>	28 April 2018	11:00 AM	Council 13236, Greensboro, NC
<b><u>Third Degree:</u></b>	2 June 2018	11:00 AM	Council 11266, Garner, NC

## **ST. SHARBEL MAKHLOUF**

Sir Knight Christopher R. Cooper

St. Sharbel Makhlof is a saint of the Maronite Catholic Church. Some references spell this saint's name "Charbel". As with many saints he came from humble origins, but left a worldwide legacy. He joined one of the monastic orders and became an ordained priest. St. Sharbel led an austere life until his death. After St. Sharbel Makhlof's death he credited with many miracles he petitioned God to bestow on the Faithful.

St. Sharbel Makhoulf was born in northern Lebanon on 8 May 1828 A.D. (Monastery Saint Maron, 2016) His parents baptized him Youssef Antoun Makhoulf. He was the oldest of five children; two brothers and two sisters. St. Sharbel Makhoulf felt the calling to the priesthood at an early age. He studied Arabic and Syriac in his youth. While not attending to his studies he would take the family's herd to graze in the outlying grasslands. St. Sharbel Makhoulf would pray at a local grotto during his time out in the fields.

After St. Sharbel Makhoulf completed his studies he started his journey to become a monk in 1851 A.D. (Monastery Saint Maron, 2016) He first started at Lady of Mayfouk for his initiation into the monastic life. When he completed his initiation St. Sharbel Makhoulf moved onto St. Maroun's Monastery-Annaya. At St. Maroun's Monastery-Annaya he entered the Corps of the Lebanese Maronite Order. He took the name of Sharbel after a martyr from the early Church. In 1853 A.D. he took his monastic vows and continued his theological studies at Monastery of Saints Kouberyanous and Justina. St. Sharbel Makhoulf received the Sacrament of Holy Order on 23 July 1859 A.D. Father Sharbel Makhoulf served as a priest for sixteen years before becoming a hermit at the St. Peter & Paul Hermitage which is part of the Monastery of Saints Kouberyanous and Justina. Here, St. Sharbel Makhoulf lived as a hermit for twenty-three years until his death on 24 December 1898 A.D.

After St. Sharbel Makhoulf death many miracles are attributed to his intercessions. (Monastery Saint Maron, 2016) Lights were viewed by the Faithful around his grave. His grave was opened by the monks. St. Sharbel Makhoulf's body had not decayed and emitted a sweet smelling liquid. The monks changed his clothes and placed his body in a new tomb. In 1925 A.D. a petition was to Rome to start the canonization of process of St. Sharbel Makhoulf. In 1950 A.D. his grave was reexamined by Church officials confirming that his body was still intact and emitting the sweet smelling liquid. St. Sharbel Makhoulf was beautified in 1965 A.D. and canonized in 1977 A.D. by Pope Paul VI.

Today St. Sharbel Makhoulf is revered worldwide by Christians and non-Christians alike. Many Maronite Catholic Churches are named after him. His relics are view throughout the world and attributed to the intercessions of many miracles.

#### Works Cited

Monastery Saint Maron. (2016). *St. Charbel*. Retrieved February 20, 2016, from Monastery Saint Maron: <http://www.saintcharbel-annaya.com/home.php?lgid=0>

### **IN MEMORIAM:**

Please keep in your prayers for the repose of the souls of:

All Deceased Knights of Columbus.

All Members of the U.S Armed Forces.

All First Responders.

### **ARTICLES FROM THE ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP**

Any Sir Knight who wants to submit an article to the Newsletter, turn the article into Faithful Navigator Chris Cooper at the next Assembly meeting or send it via email to [COOP5614@yahoo.com](mailto:COOP5614@yahoo.com).